

Otherworld Nation Founding Chronicles

Arc 3: The Coalition and the Spider

by Passing Villagers

Novel Updates

Translation Group:

Isekai Shousetsu

[r/isekaienkokuki](https://www.reddit.com/r/isekaienkokuki)

Epub: [Tollo WN/LN EPUB](#)

Intermission III: Reverse Side

Chapter 107 – Equus War I

The border between the Rosyth Kingdom and the Equus Tribe is the reasonably high mountain range called the Alva Mountain Range.

The Rosyth Kingdom lies on its western side while the Equus tribe's lands lie on its east.

It's mutually used by both sides and is demilitarized.

In other words, there isn't a clear border in the area. Well, this isn't such a strange thing in the Adernia Peninsula.

The 3,000 cavalrymen headed by Ledus are crossing the Alva Mountain range.

There was no reply from the Rosyth Kingdom which meant that the demands were rejected.

Basically, the Rule of Force plays a huge part in Equestrian tribes. In other words, while what Ledus did is far from honorable, he'll be recognized as chief so long as he wins against Muzio.

In any case, Ledus' grandfather.....the previous Lord Equus' father had also killed his lord, who was then chief of the tribe, and stole wife, daughters, and the position of chief.

Side with the Strong – that is how Alvans think.

Even if you say their blood is mixing with other cultures and are slowly Adernianizing, they are still the descendants of the flat-faced people.

Besides, Ledus also has the personal desire of making Rachaela his.

Although it's not like he can't already make her a forced bride through plunder right now....

It's only Ledus who thinks that it's more acceptable to give the freshly severed head of the previous husband rather than sheep as the bethrothal gift.

This makes Ledus look like a brute but it's a relatively common way of thinking amongst Alvans.

To equestrian tribes, women and wealth count as legitimate plunder.

Stealing another's wife (Netori) and getting one's wife stolen (Netorare) are just everyday occurrences. (TLN: *wink wink (°_5°)*)

There are three routes to the Rosyth Kingdom from the Alva Mountain Range. In order from the north, let's call them Route A, B, and C.

First is Route A. The road here is dangerous and the most roundabout so it's not normally used. However, if you got entangled in something complicated that would have you go escaping and hiding, then this is the most effective route. In fact, this is the route that Muzio and his entourage used to escape to the Rosyth Kingdom.

The next is Route B. It's the shortest route to the kingdom. It's also the route with the most even road surface. Therefore, a lot of merchants use it as well as envoys of the Rosyth Kingdom.

However, the road is narrow so moving a huge army through it won't go well.

The last route is Route C. It's the route that Ledus and his army are currently traversing.

The road is quite uneven and the distance is the average of the other two. However, the road is quite wide so an army can march through it.

The Equus tribe, instead of using wagons and carts, have instead used sheep for transport – a walking supply train.

If the road was narrow, they wouldn't be able to make the sheep walk so they had no choice but to go through Route C. It would be a different story if they had divided the army into several groups but.....doing so would be the height of sheer folly.

Naturally, the enemy should also know that.

"I dare say the enemy is already lying in wait at the mouth of this canyon. It would be disadvantageous for them after all to fight in the open fields."

Ledus says to his grandfather walking beside him.

Ledus' grandfather is a great warrior chief – a military commander with a long and distinguished service.

"I also think so. Lord Equus. We should be vigilant against an ambush, yes? This geography is ideal for an ambush after all."

The Great Warrior Chief surveys the surroundings.

If they got pincered here, even if they are cavalry, they won't be able to escape. It's impossible to make use of cavalry's mobility here.

"Lord Equus, a falcon report has arrived. The Rosyth Army has taken up positions blocking the path. They are 5,000 infantry and 300 cavalrymen strong. A lot of anti-cavalry measures have been spotted. We can't confirm an ambush."

"The person that read the report was Lydia who has openly become the leading sorcerer in the Equus tribe.....a spy of the Rozel Kingdom."

Although Lydia's true masters are Mari and King Rozel, the point of the coalition won't be accomplished if they couldn't give Ledus victory.

Therefore, Lydia is supporting him with all her might.

"I see.....Thanks. I'm expecting a lot from you."

"Thank you very much."

While snickering deep inside, Lydia gives a greeting and leaves.

That day, while keeping vigilance on their surroundings, Ledus signals to make camp and set the Yurts to let his men rest.

This in order to prepare for tomorrow's decisive battle.....

"Muzio!! Come out you fleeing coward!! Or perhaps you're scared to come out? And you call yourself an equestrian!!"

Ledus faces towards the Rosyth Army and shouts. After that, the Ledus Army's soldiers, too, follow suit, provoking Muzio and the Rosyth Army with a large voice.

As if unable to stand the taunting, Muzio takes some soldiers and breaks from the formation.

“The coward is you!! To attack in the night when all is asleep, can you even call yourself an equestrian tribesman? Oh good lord, I’m so embarrassed to be your brother. Even if you had no confidence in yourself, to think you’d use such means. It was probably also you who was responsible for the sick horses! To go so far as a coward!!”

As if to support Muzio’s words, the Equus cavalrymen headed by Muzio as well as the Rosyth infantrymen start jeering.

A smile appears in Ledus face.

“Alright, then we shall do a one on one battle!!”

Ledus declares so and advances forward alone without his army.

As such, it’ll become impossible for Muzio to not oblige.

This war is not just about winning. This is about Muzio showing his own strength to the tribe.

Unless he does that, he’ll be make fun of as a powerless fool without the support of the Rosyth Army.

“What will you do, Older Brother? Shall we have a match with the bow and arrow?”

“No, let’s go with your specialty – a bout of swords. If I use the bow, you’ll definitely lose after all.”

Muzio declares confidently. Ledus licks his lips.

“I won’t care if you regret it later!!”

The two kicked the belly of their favorite horses and dashed forth into battle.

Their two swords violently clashed against each other.

Both of them aren’t wearing any stirrups so the only thing supporting their bodies are the muscles of their legs. You can see from this intense battle how excellent these two as warriors.

The sounds of iron violently clashing reverberate throughout the canyon.

Both armies hold their breaths as they watch over the battle.

“You’re good, huh, Older brother.”

“Same goes to you.”

The two perform the dance of battle, drawing close, striking, and separating.

This goes on for a while.

“HAAAAA!!”

Ledus’ sword strongly strikes Muzio’s sword.

The vibrations are transmitted through the sword greatly jolting Ledus’ arms.

“Tch, it seems I’m at a disadvantage at one on one.”

Muzio declares so, turns his back, and runs at full speed. In other words, he’s escaping.

It’s Ledus’ win.

“Wait!! You’re turning your back even though you’re an equestrian!?!?”

Ledus chases after Muzio in order to strike him down. The 3,000-strong Equus cavalrymen follow him.

They rapidly draw close to the enemy formation.

Ledus worries a little bit.

(Should we assault just like this?.....”

Ledus sees an anti-cavalry wall before them.

It’s not that tall. Or rather, accurately speaking, it has a low chance of stopping Equus cavalrymen. It’s probably just at a height enough to stop cavalry of agricultural peoples.

If you just overstretched yourself a bit, you’d be able to jump over it. Naturally, it’s to be expected that they’d be attacked with spears and arrows should they get stuck on the wall.....

Ledus looks at the soldiers behind him once.

“Oooooooooooooo!!!!”

The soldiers are following him straightforwardly. Their morale is sufficiently

high.

This is the moment he should just believe in his soldiers and their horses.

“Let’s go!!!”

Ledus, who has entrusted everything to morale, assaults the enemy positions. He collects his force and raises his horse’s neck up.

His favorite horse, recognizing its master’s intentions, forcefully kicks the ground.

They jump over the wall and begin cutting down the Rosyth Army’s infantry.

The soldiers, negligently thought that the wall will completely stop the enemy, are easily cut down.

“Surround them!! Surround and ki-gguah!”

Blood springs forth from the body of a man that looks like a centurion. It was the Great Warrior Chief who cut him down.

“Don’t go too deep.”

“Thanks, grandfather.”

One after another, relying on the momentum, Ledus’ cavalrymen invade the enemy’s formation. There are some of them who made mistakes, but they only numbered a few. As expected, this kind of wall won’t be able to defend against Equus cavalry men.

It’s already too late to reorganize.

The Rosyth Army’s infantry and cavalry have already broken formation and escaping.

“What, these guys aren’t that of a big deal huh. Let’s go! Aim for Muzio and King Rosyth’s heads!”

Ledus raises his voice and dashes forward. The cavalrymen follow suit. One by one, they cut down and kill the Rosyth soldiers.

Victory and defeat have already been decided.

The Ledus soldiers, believing certain victory, have begun thinking about

plundering property.

Amongst them, just one person is making a worried face.

It's the Great Warrior Chief.

"(Things are going too well.....)"

The enemy has Muzio who is an Equus tribesman just like them. He should have noticed that the height of the wall isn't enough.

Furthermore, the enemy's resistance is too weak.

And also, their banner.

They've lost this much so it won't be strange to see soldiers abandoning banners but not even one banner has fallen.

"Lord Equus! This is strange! The enemy's retreat is going too well. The possibility of this being a trap is high! I suggest we retreat at once."

"Don't be stupid! What kind of trap could there be in this situation? We've received reports from sorcerers that there won't be an ambush yes? If they do have some of a number we'd overlook them, then it should be a number that we can just ignore. There's no way I could let go of this chance to win!"

What he said was quite plausible.

To the bitter end, the strangeness is no more than just the Great Warrior Chief's intuition. There's a high chance that it's just a misunderstanding.

There's no way they could move an army just because of an old man's intuition.

"If you say so then....."

The chief sticks close to Ledus as much as possible in order to protect him should something happen.

Just like that, they run through the formation.

After a little while they come out of the enemy formation and begin slashing at the back of the retreating main body of the Rosyth Army.

At that moment...

“Thi, this is!”

The smell of oil stimulates the senses of the Great Warrior Chief.

But it's already too late.

The light infantry of the Rosyth Army as well as the Equus cavalrymen headed by Muzio who had just been retreating a while ago changed course.

And then they fired off fire arrows.

The arrows ignite the oil that covered the ground.

“tch, such trickery!!”

Ledus curses as he calms down his horse.

But this much won't be a problem. A blaze won't be created just by wetting the ground with oil. Oil is something that disappears in the blink of an eye after burning after all.

There isn't any lumber in the area to fuel the flame.

Even the oil is just at a quantity where you'll just notice it if you come close to the ground where it is scattered.

They won't be able to pass through the places burning since horses are afraid of fire but.....

The area that the fire covered isn't that big. It's enough to just go around it.

“Hahaha, idiots!! Do you think this small of a fire could stop us!?”

Boom Boom Boom!

Thunderous roars rock the area. The ground had suddenly exploded.

The explosions spread in a chain engulfing the area in smoke.

The explosions themselves aren't that big of a deal but a number of unlucky cavalrymen got blown off.

However, the combination of smoke and the sound of explosion was more than enough to light the fire of terror inside the horses' hearts.

“Uwaaaaaa!!!”

Ledus favorite horse is startled and became restive. He calms it down and then surveys the surroundings.

Thirty percent of the cavalrymen has fallen from their horses while forty percent are clinging to their raging horses with all their might. The remaining thirty percent, just like Ledus, have somehow calmed their horses down.

It's at that moment when the fire nation attacked. (TLN: Lol jk.)

It's at that moment when the Rosythian hoplites and cavalrymen began their assault.

The Equus cavalry's momentum has completely disappeared.

"Run away, Ledus!!! If this keeps up, you'd get killed! I'll buy you some time somehow so escape!!"

The Great Warrior Chief shouts. He has completely forgotten to speak politely to Ledus as he himself is utterly confused by the mayhem.

"kku, I understand!"

Ledus complies and positions himself to escape.

However, an arrow almost grazes his ear as he tries to escape.

"Oioi, equestrians don't show their back, right?"

Muzio prepares his bow as he said so.

Arc 4: The Coalition and the Spider

Chapter 108 – Equus War II

This operation was plain and simple.

Muzio will taunt Ledor into a one-on-one fight and provoke him. Then, he'll return to formation.

There a wall just high enough for Equus cavalry to jump over will be waiting. They'll then pretend and pass it off as a mistake in preparations.

When the enemy cavalry comes charging over, they'll immediately retreat towards an area where they've scattered oil and alcohol which they'll ignite at the suitable time.

All the oil and alcohol will burn vigorously in a moment, so they'll only stop the enemy temporarily.

But that much is enough.

In the midst of the confusion, gunpowder, with magically powered time formulae, will explode.

These will be embedded into the ground. In other words, they'll be rudimentary mines. They would've energized it with magic beforehand, leaving only the part for igniting it. When the time comes during the retreat, they would just channel the remaining required magic.

It's not like they couldn't make mines that would explode upon being stepped on but, as Tetra put it, the mechanism will become complicated. In other words, she just had a hard time with childbirth and doesn't have the energy right now for that.

Besides, with the plan, they themselves might trigger such mines plus cleaning them up after the war would be troublesome.

In addition to that, the timed gunpowder wouldn't immediately become a problem should they fail to explode. Since they're pretty much of the same construction as the bomb spears, it'll just be a matter of the magic's channeling speed becoming late.

By the way, this mine's killing capacity is extremely inferior. It's only natural for something that is directly struck to the enemy to have a much higher lethality than something buried into the ground.

The point of this weapon is to confuse the enemy soldier..... especially, cavalry with noise and smoke.

"Now then.....since the enemy has fallen into the trap, I'll go and once again fight Ledus one on one."

"We'll win even if you don't do that you know?"

I declare to Muzio who's about to go forward. It's not necessary for Muzio to fight anymore.

"Well, it is a fact that I've run away once. Even if you said it was for the operation, it doesn't really reflect well for me. Besides, at this rate, rather than my victory, it'll be a victory for the gunpowder, wouldn't it? At the very least, I would have to take Ledus head by myself."

Yes, certainly, that's correct. If we helped out too much, it'll just become a stain in his honor.

"Are confident you'll win?"

The problem is whether or not Muzio can win over Ledus. Even I can tell Ledus has quite the martial ability but..... I can't judge him accurately with the little time we've had.

"Of course, he's not a match for me."

Muzio declares so. He then kicks the horse on the belly and dashes off. He draws his bow and fires at Ledus.....the arrow passing just a little over his ear. You can even say there's quite the leeway between the two.

Well, there's a possibility Muzio'd be branded a coward if he had struck Ledus with an arrow on the back after all. He might as well fight him face to face and win as that would be much more of a show.

Do your best, Muzio.

Muzio throws words at Ledus who had turned his back to escape.

"Hey hey, equestrians don't show their backs you know?"

They're the very same words Ledus said to Muzio.

Ledus grounds to a halt and faces Muzio.

"You coward. What sorcery did you use!?"

"There is no cowardice nor sorcery in war. Aren't you the one who taught me that? Now then, let's have one more fight."

Muzio declares so and swings his sword at Ledus.

The sound of sword clashing violently resonates in the field.

"Oi, why didn't you shoot me at the back!?"

"Idiot, do I look like a coward who shoots the enemy in the back?"

"Tsk.....I'll make you regret this, you piece of shit!!"

Ledus raises his arms and swings his sword down on Muzio. Gradually, Muzio is getting driven to a corner.

"Haha, you idiot! If only you had shot me on the back, then you would've already one!! Go regret and burn in hell!!"

".....just this?"

"Uughh!!"

Muzio swings his sword and repels Ledus' attack. Ledus' body bends from the force making him almost fall from his horse.

"Just this, you small fry?"

Muzio kicks the belly of his horse and in a moment shortens the distance between him and Ledus. Every time Muzio swings his sword, Ledus' horse gradually falls behind.

"I didn't even need to use my divine protection!!"

The sharp sound of swords clashing reverberates into the atmosphere. Ledus gives in and his sword flies away into the sky, rotating, and then landing into the earth, piercing it.

Muzio then declares to the dumbfounded Ledus while pointing a sword to the

tip of his nose.

“This is your specialty sword technique? It’s not even worth anything.”

Muzio swings his sword aimed at Ledus’ neck.

Clang

“Great Warrior Chief.....If you could please step aside.”

“There’s no way I can do that.”

The Chief strongly hits Muzio’s sword.

Muzio’s horse slowly shifts.

“I heard you are my grandfather’s great friend. You are one of the few great warrior chiefs of our tribe and, for me, a valuable and necessary person. If you immediately cut off that usurper’s head then I will forgive you.”

“Lord Ledus is my important grandchild and the Lord of this tribe! I won’t let you have his head! There’s no way I’ll hear the words of a man who has sold his soul to those bunch whose lives will end with just having barely scratched the surface!!”

The chief closes the gap in an instant and swings his sword. Muzio readily parries it.

The sounds of metal clashing resonate as Muzio’s horse retreats three steps back.

“You’re as strong as ever, chief. The old age hasn’t gotten to you, I see?”

“I’m much more weaker compared to my heyday, you know. However, Lord Muzio, you are also strong. If you and the me of the same age were to have fought, I would have probably lost. However.....right now, I’ll definitely win!!”

The two exchange blades violently. Little by little, Muzio is losing ground. Impatience is slowly appearing on Muzio’s face.

“I got you!!”

The chief swings his sword aiming for Muzio’s neck.

However, that sword never did cut Muzio.

It completely stopped just a few centimeters from Muzio's neck.

“.....It's cowardly so I don't want to use it often but...”

A strong wind blows making the chief's horse struggle. The chief looks at Muzio with a surprised expression.

“.....Oh wind”

As Muzio mutters so, knives that Muzio had brought hidden throughout his body begin floating into the sky. There are twenty of them.

“I'll say this in advance but, these knives are soaked with the sap of wolf's bane.I'm sorry but, it's your fault you're too strong.”

Muzio declares so as he instantly closes the gap between them and swings his sword.

The chief carelessly parries it.

Then, the twenty knives assault him at the same time.

The chief swings his left hand and strikes down a knife with the metal bracelet in his wrist.

The knife flies away for about five meters and stops. Then, it attacks the chief again.

“gguah!”

The third knife pierces the chief on the back making him fall from his horse. The remaining knives then rain down on him.

After a while, the chief groans a little but then becomes silent. After confirming his death, Muzio turns his sight on Ledus.

“Uugh.....”

“You're next.”

Muzio closes the distance between him and Ledus as he brandishes his sword.

Ledus panickedly brings out a dagger..... but it's already too late!

Woosh.

Ledus head flies from his body. Muzio picks it up and raises it high for

everyone to see.

I, Muzio, Lord of the Equus tribe, has slain the enemy general Ledus!! Everything is over....so surrender now!!"

Muzio looks around him.

Muzio's subordinates are already in the process of cleaning up the enemy cavalry who had already fallen down to the ground.

Thanks to Muzio's declaration, the few cavalrymen who had continued resisting lose their strength and sit down on the spot.

As such, the battle had been decided.

"It seems the battle is won."

"It seems so, Leader."

Ron nods beside me.

Gram is covering me with bow protection while Roswald is fighting with the Equus cavalrymen.

The battle's been decided so theres really no need for Ron himself to go into battle. That's why I'm keeping him here by my side as an escort.

"That said.....Without Bartolo, our strategy have completely relied on bombs huh."

It's somewhat making me feel bad.

"Isn't it fine? We won after all."

Ron laughs it off with a grin. Well, I guess there's that.

"Big brothe.....My King! We captured a woman with a Gaulish accent!!"

Roswald shouts as he draws near.

Behind him is a sorcerer bound from the back.

Roswald drags the woman before me.

"King Rosyth, I was just threatened by Ledus. My family have all been taken prisoner.....please, save them!"

The woman looks at me with upturned eyes – her cleavage is showing through the gap of her clothes.

.....Without previous information, I might be deceived by this, huh.

“We’ll have you reliably talk about Rozel, alright?”

When I said so, the woman’s expression immediately changed.

She then opens her mouth just a little.

Ron thrusts a dagger there.

“You can bite off your tongue later. We’ll first have you talk about everything but don’t take too long okay?”

“ugguhh.....this pri.....”

The woman scowls at me strongly.

Now then, the problem is “A Heart Detonation Sorcery that would make her spill out secrets” but.....only Julia knows about such sorcery, huh.

“Rachaela!!”

Muzio embraces his fiancé.

The two exchange a kiss.You two, there are 6,000 soldiers behind you. But I guess you can’t see them, huh.

We, the Rosyth Army have crossed the Alva Mountain Range and entered Equus tribelands. It’s not like there’s no more enemies we have to take down but.....this would be for coercion purposes. In any case, Muzio still only personally has 200 soldiers. Furthermore, I still have to crown Muzio by myself.

“Muzio, how long would it take you to gather all the Equus tribesmen?”

“We’ll be able to gather them in the coronation tomorrow. After that, we’ll clean up those who hadn’t come. We have to kill bad sheep after all...Well, a week later then I’ll be able to bring some 2,000 cavalrymen and immediately rush into battle. I’ll have you do your best and hold out until then.”

Is that so?.....

But still, a week, huh. I wonder if we’d be alright?

“My King!!”

A messenger rushes over.

“I have a message from Lord Raymond!”

I open the letter from Raymond.

- There’s no change on the front with the Eville Kingdom. They’re retreating little by little.
- The Belvedere Army is retreating. The Lezzad-Gehenna United Army is winning.
- I propose attacking the Belvedere Kingdom next.

This is the content of his letter.

It seems the 3,000 men strong Belvedere Army fought with the 2,000 men strong Lezzad-Gehenna United Army and marvelously lost.

It means that we’d certainly win if we were to attack now.

.....I see. If there’s no change in the front with the Eville Kingdom, then attacking Belvedere now would probably be a better choice.

Alright, next would be Belvedere huh.

I guess we’ll right Raymond a letter.

“Those who are thinking that I, Muzio Equus Sulpicius, is not the appropriate Lord of the Equus tribe should immediately leave this place and prepare for war!!”

Muzio declares such to all the clans he have gathered. Several clans..... including that of Ledus’ mother didn’t come. In other words this is just for show as everyone here are clans that have already decided to follow Muzio.

It’s only natural that nobody moved in that place.

“Lord Muzio”

I bring over the crown.

I silently place it on Muzio’s head. I’m taller than him so it didn’t take much effort to do so.

"I, Almis Ars Rosyth declare to the Gods that the Equus tribe and Muzio Equus Sulpicius are my sworn friends forever."

"I, Muzio Equus Sulpicius declare to the Gods that the Rosyth Kingdom and Almis Ars Rosyth are my sworn friends forever."

I and Muzio proclaim almost the same words.

We then pour alcohol in cups and exchange drinks. It seems this is Equus' style.

"Now then, I should probably return, my friend. If you could, please do it as fast as possible okay?"

"Of course. I'm not one to return evil for good."

I lightly bump fists with Muzio.

"Julia, I heard Almis won."

"Really? He did it!"

Julia and Tetra celebrate. They then talked to their own children.

".....Did you hear? Papa won!"

"Isn't he great, Fiona? Your papa is the strongest you know?"

A little while after the two celebrated, the two's faces become clouded.

".....I want to follow him, huh."

"We'll leave the children behind?"

Julia smiles bitterly.

There's no way they could do that.

"Hmmm, you're worried, huh. I'm also worried about Almis but....the some goes for the children, yes?"

"Even if you say that, it's not like we could bring the children either."

The two are very worried whether or not they should accompany Almis. For the meantime, they tried to refrain from deciding while the war with the Equus tribe rages but...

“It’s also said that one of the wife’s duties is to wait for the husband.....”

“Almis occasionally escapes after all.....”

The two couldn’t stop worrying. That’s how the two feels. They are excellent sorcerers so they wouldn’t be a hindrance if every they were brought along.

Or rather, they’d definitely be helpful if they came along. Julia is an extremely excellent sorcerer after all while Tetra can use magic.

“.....I wonder how Almis takes care of his sexual urges.”

“.....Julia, you’re in front of children.”

Tetra embraces her son Ancus tightly as she aired her grievance.

Julia makes a bitter smile while gently caressing Fiona.

“It’s fine it’s fine. They’re not at an age they’d understand. Besides, isn’t Tetra also curious?”

“.....I guess, more is not that good.”

It’s best that it won’t increase.

“If I recall correctly, this time’s enemy is Rozel, huh. There’s that Merlin there.”

“Yes, the world’s oldest sorcerer is there.....”

In other words, when it comes to sorcery, the enemy has the advantage.

“Alright, I’ve decided!! When they go to the DeMorgal Kingdom, I’m definitely coming!! Even if he opposes it!!”

“.....It’s the same for me. I’m worried after all.”

The two have already decided.

Chapter 109 - The One-Eyed and the Hawk I

"Is that the enemy's fort?" (Alexios)

Alexios looks down at the Belvedere Kingdom's fortress from the top of a mountain.

The land here is ruled by King Belvedere . [\[1\]](#)

And it is also the first line of defense against Lezzad.

In front of the fortress is a fairly wide river. On the fort's side is a wide forest which stretches to the other side of the fort. It would be impossible for a large army to march in to attack the fort coming from the forest. For this reason the soldiers guarding the fort focus mostly on keeping watch for enemies coming from the front where the river is.

Both the terrain and the fortress itself will make things difficult. [\[2\]](#)

"Attempting to cross the river would be bad. The enemy force would be ready waiting for us on the other side. Our country has attempted to do so in past but have never succeeded."

Explained the spy/scout sent out by Ains to Alexios.

"I see. This is troublesome."

Alexios answers it while sizing up the fortress with his one eye. [\[3\]](#)

Currently, the total number of soldiers of the Lezzad-Gehenna Coalition led by Alexios is about 2,000.

Half of this number is comprised of 300 Germanis cavalry and 700 Gallian infantry. The other 1,000 is all Cretian hoplites.

The lingua franca between them is Cretian.

The Germanis cavalry and Gallian infantry are mercenaries hired by Lezzad.

As long as commands are kept to a single word, they will be able to understand orders given in Cretian. The Cretian language acts a a lingua franca of sorts for coastal countries in the Tethys Sea much like how English is for the

world today. [4]

"Alexios! I've surveyed the enemy's manpower."

The voice Alexios heard was Melia's.

Their newborn child was left to a trustworthy Lezzadian assemblyman.

"There are currently 500 enemy soldiers guarding the fort with 1,500 reinforcements arriving by tomorrow. This puts the total counts to 2,000. I will go check the terrain now." (Melia)

"I see. Thank you, Melia. I love you. Examine the terrain if you would.

There might be a point upstream that we could cross."

Alexios receives the detailed report from Melia and reads it.

In the report there was information regarding the enemy general and even the weapons being used in the enemy's army.

"Was it really necessary for you to go this far?" (Ains)

"There's no harm in going in depth in my investigation. We don't know where a weakness might exist in the enemy afterall." (Alexios)

Alexios answers Ains' question.

Ultimately, the most important thing in a war is information. That is what Alexios thought.

"The enemy numbers 500 currently... I wonder if we could win if we tried crossing the river now? Let's just eliminate them."

Ains proposes an attack to Alexios.

To this, Alexios shakes his head.

"No, we'll fail if we try that. Crossing the river would be difficult. I've only just arrived here.

We've no ships. The river is at a depth that we could attempt to cross it without ships... however the exhaustion caused by such a crossing would be intense on the soldiers." (Alexios)

"But the enemy's forces are equal to ours in number. Would it be that difficult to capture the fortress?" (Ains)

"Well, relax. I've got an idea. ... though it all depends on what terrain is like." (Alexios)

Alexios shrugs his shoulders.

Five days pass

"Sir, a report! There is no large-scale movement being made by the enemy army." (Belvedere Soldier)

"Well, I suppose they are attempting to build ships to cross the river."

The Bevedere Kingdom's general judges this to be so.

The Lezzad-Gehenna coalition army have not moved at all. No, rather would it be more accurate to say that they can't move?

"Well, even if they could make a ship to cross, it's not like they'd even be able to. We have special anti-naval ballistae prepared for that. And even if they manage to cross, how would they even attempt to capture the fort then?" (Belvedere General)

This fort has prevented Cretian invasion for many years.

So long as the amount attacking and defending are about the same, we will be able to ensure a successful defense. There is no need to win any battles at all. Until the Rosyth Kingdom's defeat, we will be able to defend.

"What's more is that I hear the enemy general is just some third-rate brat! Our victory is assured!!" !"

So proclaims the Belvedere general.

"Sir, would it not be more plausible that the enemy would attempt a crossing at night?" (Belvedere Soldier)

"What are you saying? None would dare attempt a night crossing with a large army. It would be too dangerous to do so. It would be possible if it were just a

small force... well, for now keep watching for movement. The flames from any torches during any night crossing attempts will work as a sign." (Belvedere General)

Flames from torches would be suspicious anyways.

It should take no more than 10 minutes to understand what is happening. If there are only a small number that would not be true, it doesn't matter if a small force like that is attempting anything anyways.

It would be nice if we had a sorcerer that could soul-ride an owl to investigate, sadly such a person does not exist in this fortress.

There aren't many sorcerers who can even soul-ride an owl in the first place.

"Let them come. They pose no threat." [\[5\]](#)

The next morning

"Sir!! ! There's a problem! The enemy has camped over the river!!"
(Belvedere Soldier) !"

"What? That's impossible..."

The general unbelievably murmurs.

Right in front of him is the enemy camp across the river.

About five days ago...

"Well, the plan is simple. The reason why crossing the river is dangerous is because of the enemy's army waiting. Therefore, we just need to build a base on the opposite shore before crossing over." (Alexios)

"How?" (Ains)

Ains questions Alexios as his one eye shines. [\[6\]](#)

"Have a small number of soldiers cross in the middle of the night. About 20

soldiers cross a day. They can cross the river from inside the forest that stretches the fort from east to west. In other words, we can double the number of crossings per day to 40 people. We repeat this four times by the 5th day. A total of 160 soldiers already crossed." (Alexios) [7]

"Even if we get 160 soldiers to cross the river by then, would they not be swiftly crushed?" (Ains)

Even if a base could be built on the other side of the river, there would be no point to it if it could not be maintained.

Our army would just be treated as a joke.

"That's why we'll build our own fort. Well, I'm calling it a fort but it won't be something as grand as that. A fence and moat with guard towers for archers should be good enough." (Alexios)

"How do you plan on building this? I don't think the enemy army would make it easy for us to build something like that..." (Ains)

"We build the entire fort in one night. We can just build parts of the fort here. The fence can easily be disassembled into rafts. Oh and don't worry about the 160 people needed to cross the river, we'll be using my slaves to do this. I will oversee the construction." (Alexios) [8]

There is still concern about whether or not a good construction could even be done in one night. [9]

Alexios, however, laughs as he answers.

"Well, just wait and see. I will ensure the success of this plan. In addition to this, there is a second plan I came up with. I want to move the Lezzadian cavalry." (Alexios)

Thus on the fourth night.

The last forty people along with Alexios and Melia board the ship and cross under the cover of night. Light from torches are kept to a minimum.

With this, only the moon and stars can be used to navigate to the other side.

Alexios to the predetermined meeting place.

There were already 120 people who had made this crossing successful. With this, now it's 160 people.

Everyone of those who made it are Alexios' slaves.

They would work the field for Alexios, however now here they are on the battlefield with him. They were all excellent slaves with knowledge in civil engineering.

"Alright, I'm going to use the divine blessing now. Be sure not to speak of this to anyone else... Well, if it's you guys it should be fine." (Alexios)

Saying this Alexios exchanges eye contact with Melia.

Melia bites the soul-grass and soul-rides an owl.

Alexios then speaks to owl (now Melia).

"Well then, I will be borrowing your eyes."

Alexios removes his eye-patch and activates his Divine Blessing of Eye Borrowing.

This divine blessing allows its user to look through the eyes of any who they are intimate with. With this, Alexios and Melia (now an owl) share the vision of their right eyes.

"Next I will lend my eye to you guys." (Alexios)

Saying this, Alexios activates his Divine Blessing of Eye Lending.

This is a divine blessing where the user grants others his eyesight. However what is being seen is not shared. [\[10\]](#)

What Alexios had lent to the slaves was the right eye of the owl Melia whom he is sharing vision with.

With this the slaves' right eyes are able to see clearly in the night.

"Alright, let's hurry with making this fort, And use as little noise as possible."

"SIR!"

The slaves salute in a low voice.

Thus, in a single night, a strong encampment was built.

As soon as the Lezzad-Gehenna Coalition Army confirmed the construction of the fort,

the soldiers began crossing the river.

300 soldiers had already crossed by the time the Belvedere army had realized what had happened.

With this the total number of troops crossed is now 460 soldiers.

Belvedere's general prepared the army to sortie the enemy fort in a hurry.

He leaves behind the bare minimum amount of troops behind to guard the their fortress. The enemy base must be immediately destroyed with full force.

"March men! The army in the newly built fort is about 500! Now is the time to crush them!"

Moreover the enemy is camped in the backwater. It's our chance to crush them!"

The Belvedere general ordered his army to attack the Lezzad-Gehenna Coalition Army. Around 2000 Belvedere soldiers encircle the 500 coalition soldiers and attack.

However, even with an advantage of quadruple the soldiers, the enemy is not surrendering.

"Aaaaaagh! Hurry and finish them! Why aren't they surrendering!?"

"My apologies sir! Unlike what was previously thought, the enemy is strong... in addition they hold a good position..." (Belvedere Soldier)

There are 4 reasons why the Belvedere army are not able to make the Coalition's army surrender.

The first is the Coalition's strong position.

This position was specifically picked by Alexios, so it makes an attack on it very difficult.

Although dug shallow, the fences provide a good defense; as humble as this is the fort also has a tower for archers to attack from.

The second reason is because of Alexios' ability to lead an army and his divine blessings.

Alexios is borrowing Melia's eyes while she soul-rides a hawk; as it flies over the fort, it gives Alexios a (literal) bird's-eye-view of the entire battlefield which he uses to help him to decide on what orders to give.

Even if the Belvedere army changes where they concentrate their attack, it will soon be countered by Alexios.

The third reason is because of their situation regarding the position in the backwaters itself.

The raft which Alexios' slaves rode on were converted to become the fences for the fort; the rafts the rest of the soldiers rode on were burned. Thus, the 500 soldiers in the fort have no escape route.

Because of this, the soldiers are fighting with their lives on the line.

There were also reinforcements arriving one-by-one to the fort, thus their only hope was to stand firm and fight.

The final reason is the existence of reinforcements. [\[11\]](#)

Alexios' force of 160 who crossed over the river earlier are not as exhausted as the others.

They are able to handle some of the more intense areas on the battlefield.

The longer Alexios' army fights, the stronger his defensive position stands.

The Belvedere army canceled their assault around the time the sun had risen high above their heads, shining.

By then 70% of the Lezzad-Gehenna Coalition army had succeeded in crossing the river.

"We've no choice. We have to withdraw for now. Oh well, even without the advantage of the river we still have the our fortress. The fort is protected by a water moat and walls. It would be difficult for the fort to fall with the defenses it has. All we need to do is move back, stand guard, and wait for reinforcements to arrive."

The Belvedere general muttered to himself and starting giving orders for a retreat.

However, a few minutes after, smoke begins to rise from the Belvedere army's fort.

"What is the meaning of this?!"

Sending someone to scout ahead on a fast horse, the army follows and marches back hurriedly. The scout returns and reports.

"Sir, this is serious! Lezzad's cavalry divisions have snuck past us and are attacking the fort! It seems they crossed the river upstream and circled back to attack!"

"What?! We must hurry! Really what were those guards doing?!"

"(The general is acting as if this failure had nothing to do with him...)"
(Belvedere Scout/Soldier) [\[12\]](#)

"You say something?" (Belvedere General)

"No sir, nothing!" (Belvedere Scout/Soldier)

The general hurries back to his fort but it is already too late.

The flags of Lezzad and Gehenna are raised and fly over fortress.

The fort's gates open slowly as enemy cavalry appear.

From behind them the rest of the Coalition's army begin advancing towards the Belvedere army.

"W-we're trapped..."

The Belvedere army immediately surrenders.

The casualties from of this war totaled 200 on both sides. (TL Note: The author says war but I don't know if they mean the battle that just happened.)

With this Alexios' first battle on the Aldernian Peninsula ends famously.

Author's notes: This victory was the result of Melia's study of the battlefield's topography. It would be a mistake underestimate her. Almus will be up next.

Translator's note: Hi I'm new at this so I welcome any constructive feedback. I also want to let you guys know that I am changing the English name of Almis to Almus. This is mostly because it seems like his name is taken from both Aeneas and Romulus so "us" instead of "is" makes more sense to me. If you really hate this then let me know.

If you want to see updates you can also go to [r/isekaikenkokuki](https://www.reddit.com/r/isekaikenkokuki) on Reddit. It'd be helpful if you post any criticisms there on the respective chapters as they update. I'll start working on finishing translating chapter 110 soon.

If you want to download any of my translations then go to the "file" tab, hit "download as", and choose your preferred document file type. I recommend .docx for those who want to edit my work or auto-translate it to another language.

[1] The land he is seeing is owned by the Belvedere Kingdom for clarification.

↑

[2] I wonder why the author is saying the fort will make capturing the fort

difficult. That should be obvious with any fort [↑](#)

[3] I like to imagine that he looks like Guts. [↑](#)

[4] Sounds like I am the one saying this. [↑](#)

[5] Wasn't too sure how to translate ドンッと構えていれば良い。 [↑](#)

[6] I'm not completely sure why his eyes are shining. [↑](#)

[7] To clarify, what they mean is is that they can get 20 per side of the forest per day to cross making it 40 total per day. [↑](#)

[8] Clearly inspired by Sunomata Castle. Also I am guessing they intend to use parts of the fence as a raft to cross the river. [↑](#)

[9] Betting this is dialogue by Ains but it is not formatted as such so I left it as is. [↑](#)

[10] Basically it's like only granting 20/20 vision if you have it to someone else. [↑](#)

[11] Not sure what they mean by 援軍の存在 but it seems to refer to Alexios' slaves [↑](#)

[12] I wasn't 100% sure how to translate this bit. [↑](#)

Chapter 110 - The One-Eyed and the Hawk II

"It is nice to meet you, King Rosyth. My name is Alexios. As is apparent, I am a Povenian. I am being hired by Lezzad to lead their army in this war." (Alexios)

"So you're Alexios. I have heard much of your exploits." (Almus)

Alexios is the man who a few days seized a Belvedere fortress with barely any casualties.

Lezzad and Gehenna got a lot of slaves out of that so I'm sure they are happy about this result.

"King Rosyth, it is my belief that we should work together to obtain victory. However, that city would hinder our ability to coordinate with each other." (Alexios)

Alexios points to a distant yet visible city.

It is a populous city protected by high walls.

It is the third largest city in Belvedere with about a 70% of its population having Cretian descent.

Instead of giving the city local autonomy, King Belvedere is collecting taxes from the city.

It would have been better to let the strongly free-spirited Cretian self-govern. There are many cities like this in the Belvedere Kingdom.

“If we were to attack the castle there and attempt to take control of the city, it would take time. If this isn’t done well, it could take years before we would be able to take the castle. We obviously do not have the luxury of time for such an attack.” (Almus)

He’s right though, we need to provide aid to Bartolo after all.

To provide supplies so he and his men don’t starve, we have to capture the city.

“So, what is it you had in mind?” (Almus)

“Your majesty, what we should capture is not the city but the hearts of its people.” (Alexios)

Alexios smiled with a grin.

He elaborates on his statement.

“Up until now, we have been able to advance our armies smoothly. Because of that, we have been able to consolidate our forces. Are you aware why this is?” (Alexios)

“King Belvedere has withdrawn most of his soldiers, this is because he has begun to lose defensive ground. They have left behind only the bare minimum of troops needed to guard their large villages and towns.” (Almus)

Well, I think this is a pretty safe strategy to go with. [\[1\]](#)

The longer the front of their defensive line stretches, the more they need to stretch the line itself thin.

If they were to stretch thinly, there would be fear that we could easily destroy

a part of the line somewhere.

Since this is the case then the best strategy would be to fallback, concentrate their defenses, and save their manpower.

The plains near the Belvedere royal capital would be the deciding battle, so you would be smart to guard it. [\[2\]](#)

At the very least for their country's survival, the most likely winning strategy would be a costly. [\[3\]](#)

After all, I definitely cannot afford to do that.

That kind of strategy would abandon many commoners and patricians. [\[4\]](#)

Going through with that would mean support for the right to rule would be lost. Even if the country is saved, you would not be able to regain its former strength.

... Well it's not like King Belvedere is an ambitious person like myself.

The king of Belvedere would never do what I have done.

It's just a difference in values between myself and King Belvedere, not whether or not one way is superior or inferior.

So I look down on his actions.

"I understand what you want to say. Can we really make that city capitulate?"
(Almus)

"That's right." (Alexios)

"However, that city has been under the Belvedere Kingdom's rule for over 100 years. They should owe some kind of allegiance to King Belvedere. Would

making them surrender really be that simple?" (Almus) [\[5\]](#)

When I ask this, Alexios nods.

"We will use the Rosyth Kingdom's weapon, the fire dust. We set off explosions late into the night. We do this every night... and make loud noises so the citizens will have trouble sleeping." (Alexios) [\[6\]](#)

Hm...

"This should continue for about three days. Afterwards, we will ask for the city to surrender. The Belvedere Kingdom collects a tenth of their total tax revenue. This is not that heavy of a tax but it isn't an insignificant tax either. They also obligate the city's people to service in the military too. If they are promised in some part lessened taxes then they will open the castle gates themselves." (Alexios)

I see. It's not a bad proposal.

However, there is one part about this plan that worries me .

"Is this fine? You were hired by Lezzad were you not? You should be seeking assistance from Ains not me." (Almus)

"If the city is given to Lezzad, then it would upset the balance of powers cause a crisis with Gehenna and Nemes. There's also the fact that this the northern part of the Belvedere Kingdom. It would be very difficult for Lezzad to maintain control over the land as it borders Belvedere's south." (Alexios)

I see. That reasoning makes sense.

“I understand. We’ll go through with your plan.” (Almus)

“My king! Is this really fine? To accept the advice of a foreigner is...”

One of the patricians raise their voice in protest.

The other patricians seem to hold the same opinion.

Well, I can understand why they would be negative about this...

“Time is something we cannot afford. This is best plan for a quick victory. Even if we fail here, we will have at least exhausted our opponents. It’s worth a try... do any of you want to suggest a better plan?” (Almus)

When I ask this, the patricians avert their eyes.

They think the plan is solid as well. The only reason they are against it is because it’s coming from a foreigner.

... Well, in my case I don’t particularly mind hearing the opinion of a foreigner.

I still think of myself as Japanese, so it makes no difference to me if someone is Aldernian, Cretian, or Povenian.

“What will the your majesty’s terms be for the city?” (Alexios)

“Let’s see... They must provide supplies to the army, a temporary base, be obligated to give service to the military, be given full autonomy excluding diplomacy and tariffs, a 2% tax... that should be good enough right?” (Almus)

“Is it fine to make such light demands?” (Rosyth Patrician)

A patrician once again raises their voice to protest.

The other patricians say they want the tax to be higher. Alexios also makes a face.

Hold on now, I also have an idea after all.

"If the city would be willing to switch sides from Belvedere to Rosyth, then who is to say they cannot switch from Rosyth to another country in the future? We must eliminate that possibility. If we give them a low tax it will lower the chance of them defecting."

In the first place besides taxes, they will have to spend money on infrastructure and maintenance for the army.

Beside the 10% tax Belvedere is extorting from the city, the commoners are being made to pay an harsher tax.

The burden on them is not light.

In the first place, Cretians are not a people that like to be ruled over. Especially not by a king.

That's why, the concept of regularly collecting taxes is not a concept the Cretians would even think of doing. [\[7\]](#)

That is why we are going to offer a low tax rate.

If we do this, hostility against our kingdom's rule goes to zero.

Also, it's not like this city is the only city with a significant Cretian population

in the Belvedere Kingdom.

If we give them an great deal then things will go smoothly. [\[8\]](#)

It's enough for them to just give us soldiers during times of war anyways.

Placing taxes will be seen like we are exploiting them while requesting military service will be seen as a necessity for mutual defense. They should be easily convinced by this.

Though to be honest, this is the best policy to go with. I've decided I want to lower the tax rate of our country .

I only need a modest amount of tax revenue. A hundred pennies make a dollar after all.

I also want to prepare for the difference between other cities. That's why I think a 2% tax is perfect. [\[9\]](#)

The problem is that I'd have no land to give to the patricians, but I don't think there'd be a city or village in the Belvedere Kingdom that wouldn't rebel. Giving land around the cities will have to do.

I can also give some land directly under my control if it comes to that.

After this is...

“Of course, we will keep the current ruling class in charge. It’s easier that way.” (Almus)

The most troublesome part of war is the postwar management.

If we keep the local government in place, we only need to ensure loyalty and there'd be no need to go through great lengths to manage the new territory.

“So, are there any objections?” (Almus)

There were no objections.

BOOM!!!

BOOM!!!

BOOM!!!

It has been three days since the enemy army began sieging the city.

“As usual they are making loud noises, just yelling. *Sigh...* there’s just no point to it.” (Belvedere Solider #1)

“The only ones who think that are us soldiers. ... The townsfolk are terrified as they are unfamiliar with what war is like. Just recently my wife told me that our child is crying everyday.” (Belvedere Soldier #2)

The soldiers overlook the enemy as they make noise.

When the Coalition Army began sieging the city, the soldiers were prepared to die.

The enemy has a large force while we have a small one. There is no way we could fight that.

Though central command is preparing to deploy reinforcements, we don’t know when they’ll arrive.

Even so, I am prepared to do anything to defend this place hype myself to do

so.

Still, the enemy army have not really done anything.

I mean all they have been doing is loudly yelling and making noises as deafening as thunder.

Well, if this is all they're doing then it should be fine.

Pretending to do assault at midnight, they hope to wear out the opponent. It's a common tactic.

Us soldiers as well as the townsfolk were prepared for this.

However, I just can't get used to that thunder-like sound.

While I say it's a thunder-like sound, it's not quite that either. It's more like a roar that reverberates through your body to the stomach.

The sound has been causing problems for the city's citizens.

Children and some of the more faint-hearted women cannot sleep at night and are crying, those cries are getting on the nerves of the others who are trying to sleep.

A majority of the people in the city are stressed out.

There's also the fact that human excrements are falling from the sky everyday. (eww)

Even though we are doing our best to clean up, in the end what stinks will stink.

Whether or not the enemy general has bad aim or not is not really known as they tend to have bad accuracy during mealtime.

“Oh, by the way, did you hear about those letters being sent by arrows?”
(Belvedere Soldier #1)

“I do; I actually have one on me.” (Belvedere Soldier #2)

Saying this, the soldiers show his coworker the letter from the arrow.

It reads:

[King Belvedere is gathering his soldiers inside the royal capital; there is no sign of them making any advances. That cowardly king has abandoned you. Reinforcements are not coming.]

“You think they’re telling the truth?” (Belvedere Soldier #1)

“At the least... we shouldn’t recklessly say anything about this. To avoid lowering morale any further, the higher-ups have put a gag rule on speaking about this.” (Belvedere Soldier #2)

“Then you shouldn’t be talking to me about this right?” (Belvedere Soldier #1)

The soldier’s colleague told him bluntly.

His colleague apologizes as he stares up to the stars and mutters.

“Why can’t we just surrender?” (Belvedere Soldier #1)

“What are you saying?!” (Belvedere Soldier #2)

“I mean it’s not like we owe anything to King Belvedere right? I mean we are

supposed to be his subjects, but do we really need to fight for him with our lives on the line?"

This is a sentiment held by many of the soldiers who are from this city.

70% of the soldiers protecting the city were born there. The remaining were just some garrison King Belvedere left behind.

It's obvious King Belvedere was only using the city to buy time.

That was the sole purpose of the city.

"Still though... they haven't even demanded for us to surrender yet. Even if, let's say, they did and we agreed to a surrender... do you think we'd be any better under the rule of someone else? Do you want to leave that kind of negative legacy for your children?" (Belvedere Soldier #2)

"But as this rate, we'll just die in vain. Isn't it important for us to stay alive? ...Well, it's not like we can choose what to do anyways. The decisions are decided by our superiors anyways..."

The day after that.

King Rosyth proclaimed his terms for their surrender.

First, if you value your lives, put down your arms and open the gates. If this is done then of course we guarantee the lives of all citizens including the soldiers, and guarantee the right to maintain any property you own.

Second, allow our army to use the city as a base. You will be need to cover the maintenance cost of the army. The minimum in the form of food supplies and

arrows is fine.

Third, this city shall become a territory under King Rosyth.

Fourth, the citizens are to be obligated to military service.

Fifth, we give full autonomy with the exception of diplomacy and tariffs.

Sixth, under us you will need to pay a 2% tax.

The city's top level government, the city council, spent half a day vigorously debating. They finally decided on a modified version of King Rosyth's surrender terms.

First, if you value your lives, put down your arms and open the gates. If this is done then of course we guarantee the lives of all citizens including the soldiers, and guarantee the right to maintain any property you own.

Second, allow our army to use the city as a base. You will be needed to cover the maintenance cost of the army. The minimum in the form of food supplies and arrows is fine.

Third, this city shall be tied to King Rosyth in "confederation".

Fourth, when the city is at war with another country then King Rosyth must protect the city. When King Rosyth is at war with another country then the city will supply military forces.

Fifth, we give full autonomy with the exception of diplomacy and tariffs.

Sixth, under us you will need to pay a 2% tax.

Seventh, in any future battles between the Belvedere army and Coalition army, any soldiers from the originally from this city who become POWs are to not be made into slaves and are to be released freely.

“... The core of the demand has been changed by a lot hasn't it? Jeez... They've got too much pride.” (Almus)

Almus gave his approval with a bitter smile.

Thus, the third most populous city in the Belvedere Kingdom surrenders in 4 days.

And so, the Coalition Army advance.

Then many cities heard rumours of what happened to the city that surrendered and so all decided to surrender to King Rosyth.

The Coalition Army get to the capital city much sooner than King Belvedere expected.

Author's note:

The money from the 2% tax is going directly to Almus.

This is a separate tax to the one the citizens pay to the city itself.

It's like the difference between a tax made by your city and the national income tax.

As the cities (in the series) get no support from the central government they must get income somehow. Thus a country that will allow for a city to have right to autonomy and leave it at that is easier for them... that's the case here.

Translator's note:

I hope you guys enjoyed this translation. The hardest part I'm finding (as I'm still new to this) is trying to get the same message across while trying to not go too far from the source material. I like to mostly directly do a direct translation but sometimes what's directly translated won't make sense in English so I have to find some way compromise between what makes sense in English and keeping to the source material. Does that make sense? Anyways, it just means I need to get used to it is all. I'm not in any way discouraged.

Also I wanted to note in case anyone thought this but Almus is still getting what he demanded. Mostly the only thing that changed was the wording of the demand to make it seem more like the city and the Rosyth Kingdom are equals along with the added 7th part of the demand. As I understand it, the city won't be independent but be something more like what Hongkong is to China with China here being the Rosyth Kingdom. Autonomous but officially under the Rosyth Kingdom which is what Almus wanted anyways.

I'm also thinking of changing Povenia to something else. It's not that important but I'm just trying to figure out where the author got ポフェニア from. Literally it reads Pofenia. I'm thinking it's something like Pothenia since the country is supposed to be Carthage as it is south of Aldernian Peninsula which is supposed to be Italy and Alexios' last name is Barca like Hannibal Barca (which is ironic that he's helping Almus as the real Hannibal Barca swore to his father that as long as he lived he would never be a friend to Rome). Plus if it were

Povenia then I'd think the katakana would be more like ポヴェニア or ポベニア. Pothenia is close to Punic and Carthage I guess so there's that too I guess? Just tell me if you like one or the other (might make a poll or something idk).

If you didn't see from last time but you may do whatever you please with my work. That means downloading and reuploading is fair game as long as you mention that I did the translating.

[1] Almus is referring to the strategy King Belvedere is using mentioned earlier. [↑](#)

[2] This was a bit awkward to translate: 王都近辺の平原で決戦、または立て籠もった方が利口だ。 [↑](#)

[3] The country they are referring to is a bit unclear but I'm guessing that it's Belvedere since they've been the subject for a while. [↑](#)

[4] I will be calling clans as "patricians" from now on. This is to keep with the Rome theme the novel has going on. Clans evoke a different image, almost Celtic or "barbaric" so this is a good change I think. The Japanese word was [gozoku](#) which basically meant a rich family anyways and that's what a [patrician](#) was. I was tempted to start calling commoners "[plebs](#)" but that kind of sounds funny in English and is used as an insult (or something) nowadays. If you guys won't find it weird or silly calling the lower class "plebs" from now on let me know. Otherwise commoners it is. [↑](#)

[5] This is what I think they were trying to say. If anyone has a better suggestion then let me know:

「お前の言いたいことは何となく分かったぞ。あの街に降伏を進めろということか」
「その通りです」

「しかし、あの街は百年以上もベルベデイル王の国の支配下にあった。恩義も多少はあるはずだ。そう簡単に折れるか？」↑

[6] Just in case you were wondering, he is referring to gunpowder. The original raw Japanese said something like fire medicine which is something akin to the old Chinese name for gunpowder so I thought fire dust was a more western sounding name for it since the setting is in alternate Italy and not in the far east. ↑

[7] I did some research because I found it hard to believe ancient Greeks did not tax its citizens. Surprisingly I found out that ancient Greeks had no system for collecting taxes. The only times taxes were used was when money was needed for public works like theatre or gymnasiums and during time of war but even war taxes were only ever levied on the wealthy. It was actually strange if a Greek city-state ever taxed the had a regular tax much less one on the lower class. Ancient Greek economics, the more you know. ↑

[8] I think this is close to what the author meant? 一度、大盤振る舞いすればスムーズに行く。 If translated literally what was said is something like, “Once, if we do a large banquet then things will go smoothly.” If anyone has a better translation let me know. ↑

[9] I don't quite understand what he means by preparing for differences between cities. I think maybe he means preparing the patricians for more of this kind of treatment to other cities. ↑

Chapter 111 - The One-Eyed and the Hawk III

Our Coalition Army has made good progress on the advancement.

We've made it to the capital city in single day.

It hasn't even been two days since that first city had surrendered.

There's one major reason why we've been able to advance at such a good pace. Many cities and villages surrendered and opened their gates.

All of the cities that surrendered to us were given self-autonomy and were obligated to give military service. The taxes given were different to each city.

First were the the cities and villages whose patricians surrendered before we could even give our terms.

We had them give us a hundredth in taxes. That is 1%. Almost nothing.

Next were the patricians whose cities or villages would open their gates after accepting our surrender terms.

We had them give us a fiftieth in taxes. In other words, 2%.

Last were the patricians whose cities and villages we had to attack before getting them to surrender due to them being outnumbered.

We had them give us a twenty-fiftieth in taxes. A 4% percent tax.

Well, doing that was better than allowing King Belvedere more time to prepare. Rather, had I not done it this way, the cities and villages would not

betrayed him in the first place.

To be honest though, I would like to have negotiated more taxes but... time is of the essence. I'm worried about Bartolo.

By the way, not all of them surrendered easily.

About 40% were submissive while the remaining 60% resisted. [\[1\]](#)

In Aldernian dominant cities and villages, there was more of a tendency from the patricians to resist. Compared to the Cretians, I suppose they have more loyalty to their king.

In those kinds of towns and villages, we just had to apply some military pressure on the patricians.

This was actually pretty easy to accomplish as long as we used the bomb spears. There was also the fact that Alexios was much more capable than I initially thought.

Could he be more skilled than Bartolo in when it comes to sieging castle? Wait, I've never even seen Bartolo siege a castle yet.

For any of those who would resist, I of course will not grant autonomy.

They will be imposed with a 40% tax. After this, I do plan on lowering this when they become more loyal.

Doing it this way, the treatment for those that surrender sooner rather than later is like the difference between heaven and earth...

For the places that were not granted autonomy, the tax does not include (take into account?) the cost for infrastructure and other miscellaneous

expenses. This is because those expenses should really be paid by the governing body.

On the other hand, taxes imposed on those given autonomy do include the cost for infrastructure and other expenses. The self-autonomous cities can't afford to spend on those things so they are put in with the one tax. [\[2\]](#)

Well in the case of many of the cities and villages that were not granted autonomy... they are doing fine economically speaking.

Though, I suppose that is also true for many cities and villages that were given autonomy.

Most likely, the place that had the least burdensome tax for commoners is that third-most populous city. The tax rate there on the commoners themselves was 1%. [\[3\]](#)

For reference, the tax rate in the lands directly under my control is 30%. I intend to lower this to 20% in the future.

"That's the Belvedere Army isn't it. I'd say they number about 8,000 don't you think? A bit excessive if you ask me." (Almus?)

"Well we also number 8,000. The battle will be between an equal amount of soldiers. Should they lose, they can just shut themselves behind their ramparts. Should we lose though, it's over. Strategically speaking, we are at a disadvantage." (Alexios?)

Should we have prioritized finishing off Rozel instead of Belvedere and gone to assist Bartolo that way?

There is also Muzio's reinforcements...

No, it's pointless to be thinking about this now. I just have to think about how I should win this.

"Sir Alexios, do you have any ideas?" (Almus)

You should leave a baker to bake the cake. I am no genius when it comes to military tactics anyways.

In times like these, it's best to just politely ask for help from a professional.

"Since we're about equal in terms of soldier count, I think it'd be better if we not try any fancy trick. If we attack head on could we win... but there is no reason for them to come out and fight us is there." (Alexios)

You know I've been thinking, you really beat around the bushes don't you?

Just get to the point.

Seeing the annoyed look on my face, Alexios quickly spoke.

"Actually, there is this tactic that I've been proposing to do for a while now..." (Alexios)

Alexios told me what his proposed tactic was.

It was a terrible plan that could only be thought by a person with bad taste.

This plan is going to leave a bad taste in my mouth. Oh, I am just complimenting him?

"Tch, those damned traitors... if I just had one more day, I could have mobilized 2,000 more soldiers..." (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere looks upon the enemy soldiers equal to his with a furrowed brow.

The Belvedere Army was made up of 8,000 infantry and 200 cavalry.

Meanwhile, the Coalition Army is reported to be 7,000 infantry strong with 600 to 700 cavalry.

The cavalry is mostly made up of Lezzad's Germanis Cavalry. They far exceed Aldernian Cavalry in terms of skill.

In any case, with this many soldiers, it can be said that the Belvedere side has the advantage.

We also have succeeded in gaining the high ground. [\[4\]](#)

The Belvedere Army is superior strategically speaking as well as tactically speaking.

That being said, it is possible for the tables to be turned as there is not too much of a difference between the two armies themselves.

In a battle between armies of equal value, the difference will show in the quality of the commanders.

Between the Belvedere Army and the Coalition Army, there's no doubt that the Coalition Army is superior in terms of quality of their commanders.

Especially, since the Rosyth Army have been experiencing a string of victories.

It was the Coalition Army who made the first move.

In response, the Belvedere Army adjusted their formation.

Since the Belvedere Army was able to secure the high ground and make full use of it, they have a much better advantage.

In contrast, the Coalition Army would have to walk up the slope if they hoped to engage the Belvedere Army. Doing this will make it difficult to maintain morale and fatigue will easily increase.

The Belvedere Army held a locational advantage.

The two armies face directly each other.

Here in the Great Plains one would not be able to carry out an ambush. Traps such as pitfalls were not feasible either.

Thus this is going to be a fairly by-the-book battle.

The common military tactic in the Aldernian Peninsula was to begin with a skirmish phase. Light infantry will attack first slinging rocks and shooting arrows. Then the use of javelins would be employed to disrupt the enemy formation. Finally, the heavy infantry comes in to finish the battle.

The heavy infantry would go in to attack together with the cavalry on each side while the light infantry assist the cavalry.

Cavalry in the Aldernian Peninsula were not very strong so it was rare for

them to be able to pierce through heavy infantry.

It almost always ends up with the two opposing heavy infantry regiments clashing. Therefore, the battle is heavily dependent on which side has the numerical advantage and better quality of soldiers.

At the moment, the Coalition Army has more than twice the cavalry the Belvedere Army has and they know this.

The Belvedere Army have set up their light infantry to cover the sides of their cavalry for this reason.

However, the Coalition Army has to battle uphill and are unable to make full use of their cavalry's mobility because of this.

Therefore, it is not likely that the battle will depend on who wins the cavalry battle but instead will likely be determined by the heavy infantry as is usually the case.

The bulk of both army's heavy infantry is made up of conscripted Aldernian peasants.

The quality and morale of the Coalition Army was better, but that advantage zeros out when accounting for fatigue.

This will truly be an even fight. It would not be strange if suddenly the battle turns in favor for one side or the other.

After glaring at each other for a while, the battle begins with the light infantry marching ahead.

Both sides hold throwing stones and bows as well as javelins in hand.

The initial skirmish phase of the battle begins...

"Hmm?" (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere tilts his head in confusion.

There are soldiers within the Coalition Army's light infantry that are unarmed. For some reason, those unarmed soldiers step forward ahead of the rest and shout something.

"Hey you, what are they saying?" (King Belvedere)

"This is serious!! They say they are soldiers who come from towns and villages that surrendered... It seems they are announcing those towns and villages have switched sides." (Belvedere Soldier)

"What!?" (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere stares ahead.

This is not encouraging. It seems that this is mostly likely a recommendation for surrender.

If let as it is, this is going to affect morale.

"Should we fire projectiles at them sir?" (Belvedere Soldier)

"You imbecile!! If we did that, our army would fall apart!!" (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere quickly halts his men's advance.

He rides his horse to the frontlines. This is to bolster the morale of his men.

At the moment, in front of me are 20 people from the surrendered villages and towns who were yelling at us.

Many of them have tears in their eyes.

The expressions of sorrow on their faces is making the soldiers feel sympathetic to them.

"My village brethren!! Do you hear me? You do not have to fight!! It is fortunate, for King Rosyth has promised to grant us autonomy!" (Rebel Villager)

"That's right!! Mark! My dear son!! Are you listening? Even if a battle begins just sit it out!! His majesty King Rosyth has said that those who do not fight will be taken in as prisoners of war and afterwards will be granted freedom!!" (Rebel Mother)

"There is no need for blood to be pointlessly spilt!! Please, Kane!! Please do not leave your father behind!!" (Some Rebel)

"Tory! We promised that once this war was over we'd get married right? Please!! Please surrender!! If you do that you can live!! I'm begging you!!" (Rebel Fianc é) [\[5\]](#)

In a nutshell, Alexios' proposed strategy psychological warfare.

Moreover, we are exploiting familial love and the kindred felt from people from the same villages against our enemy.

Even if the the people named Mark, Kane, or Tory are not here, there's no doubt that many of the soldiers here are thinking about the family and loved ones they have left back home.

Their family and loved ones are safe now. There is no need for further violence.

As a side note, the people yelling are real; they are yelling their hearts out to the other side.

When I told them I would do everything I could to save their brethren, they became overcome with joy and cried with great emotion, which lead to them yelling like this.

... My conscience is making me feel a bit guilty though.

"Please, King Rosyth, it is your turn." (Alexios)

"Right... you're looking lively." (Almus)

Alexios just smiles. This guy, it seems he doesn't feel bad about it this at all.

I can't really blame anyone if their conscience starts acting up a little by this. That being said how can the father of a child come up with a plan to use the love felt between people as a weapon?

"What do you mean? I could come up with this because I know what love is." (Alexios)

Ah, okay alright. Looks like it's my fault for having different expectations.

"Gentlemen!!" (Almus)

I move in front of the line of light infantry, riding on my favorite horse Sakura.

It's a little dangerous but trying to persuade them won't work if I have people shielding me while I'm doing it.

Well, at this distance no arrow wouldn't be able to reach me unless they were fired by someone like Gram. Besides, I have Divine Protection of the Great King so I won't die that easily. If would be an instant death should it hit me in the head though.

"I have no reason to kill those who are not enemies. What I want is for there to be peace... We are all brethren who live in the same Aldernia. It would be a mistake to kill each other! The true enemy are the Gallians, the Rozel Kingdom! However, rather than allying us to fight against the Rozel king, he instead chooses to ally with King Rozel and fight us instead. In which of us lies justice? I repeat. I do not want to fight against my brethren!!" (Almus)

To be frank, it is still a mystery as to whether or not Belvedere and Rozel have allied or not.

I do think some exchange of letters took place but... I do not think they had made an official alliance. The Belvedere Kingdom are just being opportunistic thieves.

There should feel some sense of duty.

Aldernians are a people who strongly uphold duty and honor. At least, that's the general attitude among Aldernians.

"I believe everyone knows by now. I give to cities and villages who surrender autonomy and all ask is a small tax. This tax is not to be used to line my own pockets and abuse my authority. It is war funds for the country's safety, a country of which you are newly a part of. I wish for peace. And I want those who, like myself, wish for peace to drop their weapons." (Almus)

Well, I'm not really deceiving anyone here. I really do live a fairly frugal life...

well “practical” would be a better word to describe it.

The only extravagant thing I have is the hot spring.

The other patricians probably have much more excessive lifestyles.

“I implore you gentlemen! My purpose here is to crush those cowards who would make allies with the Gallians and sell out their fellow Aldernians!!”
(Almus)

“Don’t be fooled!!” (Voice) [\[6\]](#)

A voice that was not mine reverberated across the battlefield.

One man came forward riding on his horse. He was... King Belvedere.

It’s pretty surprising he’d come out in the battlefield.

“This man is fighting Rozel because he is going to receive land as a reward!! Have you forgotten? His country killed King Ferrum, and he is the man who robbed the DeMorgal Kingdom of its land!!” (Almus)

Those were defensive wars though...

In the first place, King Ferrum was planning on killing my father-in-law, the father of my wife, and stole land by suddenly declaring independence...

That being said, it’s not like many of the soldiers of another country would even know the nuances of those events.

Many of the Belvedere soldiers return to their senses and begin to glare at me.

"What are you saying!! King Ferrum was a man who killed a vassal of my country and stole his land. We merely retook the land and saved its inhabitants. Where is the evil in that?! We had an unfortunate dispute with the DeMorgal Kingdom... however we now fight side-by-side!! Between us and the DeMorgal Kingdom there was only winner and loser, invader and the invaded. But now we fight as allies against the Gallian invaders. We have come to an understanding!!" (Almus)

I shout loudly.

King Belvedere takes a moment to think. He's trying to think of a rebuttal.

However, the battle between words has already been lost. Even if the argument I made were incoherent, even if it were inconsistent, even if they were to take the opposing opinion, I've still won!!

I press for an answer.

"I ask of you gentlemen, why do you think these people have surrendered to me? Why have the towns and villages under King Belvedere defected... answer me!!" (Almus)

I signaled to the men from the cities that surrendered.

It was part of the script for them to show up but what they say is what they honestly think.

"King Belvedere only left a hundred soldiers to protect my hometown!! In the end, they used up the entire storehouse of wheat!! For 300 years since becoming part of the Belvedere Kingdom's territory we have shown nothing but loyalty. And yet...!!" (Rebel Man)

"My village has given 10 young men to serve as soldiers!! Despite that King Belvedere did not protect my village. On the contrary, they robbed us of our wheat storehouse and burned whatever they could not carry!!" (Rebel Villager #1)

"They poisoned mah village's well!!"(Rebel Villager #2)

Well, strategically speaking I believe he made the correct choices.

Scorched earth tactics is a fundamental strategy after all. Perhaps even Raymond is employing this on the Eville Kingdom.

Though if scorched earth is employed, we do evacuate the people and try to carry as much food as possible and try not to burn much. We also don't throw poison into the wells.

Well, near our border with the Eville Kingdom there are many small rivers, so it would be pointless to even try to poison the wells in the first place.

The Belvedere Kingdom had planned only to invade our country. Because of this, they didn't have a plan in the event they were invaded.

There would have been no way to evacuate the people because of this... is the excuse they would give.

It wasn't a problem that they couldn't do it.

King Belvedere gives a sour look.

Seems he can't think of a rebuttal.

My talking down of King Belvedere has caused agitation to run through the Belvedere Army. As human I cannot overlook what their king has done.

"Have you seen it?! This the truth. That man is a weakling who command strong soldiers to toss food aside like a coward. His head must drop as soon as possible. Men, get into formation!!" (Almus)

My light infantry begin their attack on my order.

Stone, arrow, javelins, and bomb spears arc over to the enemy. By the way, the bomb spears are weaker versions than the ones we normally use. I want to conserve the use of gunpowder.

"Kuh, damn bastard..." (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere shields his body and slowly begins to fall back behind the ranks.

"I won't let you run!!"

The person who said Gram who approached next to me.

Gram draws his longbow as far as he can and sends an arrow flying to King Belvedere. The arrow hits King Belvedere's horse causing him to fall off of it.

The impact from falling from his horse causes King Belvedere to lose his shield.

Gram had intended this to happen.

Gram draws his longbow again and releases an arrow aimed between King Belvedere's brows.

"Watch out!!" (Random Belvedere Soldier)

A Belvedere soldier manages to grab King Belvedere's shield and block the arrow aimed for the king's head.

The arrow released from the longbow pierces through the soldier's armor, killing him.

It is apparent that King Belvedere has disappeared to another part of the battlefield.

Gram clicks his tongue in annoyance and switches his target to the commanding enemy centurion.

One after another Gram launches arrows at enemies who wear helmets with plumes that look the comb on a rooster. As always, he is adept at precision shooting.

"It's impressive as always." (Almus)

"Please stop... you're making me embarrassed..." (Gram)

Gram blushes a little while scratching his cheek.

From the start, the enemy's heavy infantry's formation has collapsed due to unrest we caused earlier. There is also the fact the king has fled.

The enemy light infantry have just begun their attack but it is already too late.

"To me men!! Charge!!" (Almus)

I kick my horse Sakura and manage to climb the hill in one go.

Our heavy infantry and cavalry make it to the fight.

"Haaaaa!!" (Almus)

With my Dragon Damascus steel sword, I cut through enemies like butter.

The enemy has begun to take notice and fear my strength. I am very strong you know; even if I forget that every now and then!!

"Die!! Rosyth King!!" (Random Belvedere Soldier)

"I won't let you." (Ron)

Coming from behind me, Ron cuts down the enemy soldier.

"Leader... I mean, my King. You stick out too much from the front lines, as usual." (Ron)

"Sorry, I just thought that it's been a while since I've gone out to the front lines... but I did think you would follow me though?" (Almus)

Saying this Ron blushed. Hey, don't get flustered now. I'm embarrassed saying it.

"I will protect your majesty's back!!" (Ron)

"Right!! I leave it to you!!" (Almus)

Ron and I proceed to cut down enemies together. I did my best to target the people who were the most flashy in the battle.

As I thought, fighting against an enemy army with the high ground makes it

difficult to maintain control. The enemy stalling to tire us out.

Normally, we'd be able to steadily push back the enemy until they got into an unfavorable position.

However, the pace they are falling back at is really bad for them.

To begin with, heavy infantry are supposed to be strong at defending their hometown, companions, and country.

When they fight side-by-side with their allies they are strong and can give a powerful assault.

But now, that cooperation is falling apart.

In any case, in the army are some people who had previously surrendered and were released.

I think there are some people who don't really want to fight us. On the other hand, there are those who would begin to doubt their comrades who would go easy on the enemy. [7]

That hint of doubt and being slightly out of synch with each other overlapping would prove fatal.

Left, right, and center, the Belvedere Army began to collapse simultaneously on the battlefield.

And so, once the heavy infantry regiment collapsed, there was no recovering the damage dealt.

"Give pursuit men!!" (Almus)

At once, I run up ahead through the battlefield.

Before I realized it, Roswald was right next to me.

"My King. Pardon me but I'm going ahead. Virgar!! We must not lose out to the Lezzad cavalry!" (Roswald)

"Understood, captain!!" (Virgar)

The two rush past me side as they talk.

Hey, you're leaving behind the rest of the cavalry you know?

Well, I suppose it's good that they still have this much energy...

In this war, the Coalition Army had 300 casualties.

Meanwhile the Belvedere Army had a casualty count of 1,000. There were also 4,000 prisoners of war taken along with 1,000 deserters.

King Belvedere still has 2,000 men and is holed up behind the castle gates of the royal capital.

Author's note:

Next chapter will be the end of Belvedere.

Translator's note:

Sorry for how late this one was. It took a lot longer than I thought because I

suddenly became busy with some things. Hopefully I can get the next chapter out faster than this one. At the very least, even when I'm busy, I'll try to release a translation once a week. Otherwise I hope you enjoyed this.

[1] When Almus says that they resist, I think he means not surrendering soon after attacking the city/village like the previous third scenario he mentioned. He explains what he does in that scenario soon. [↑](#)

[2] Trying to figure out Almus' tax policy was a bit hard to decipher. The language that was used was a bit difficult to understand for me. Let me know if I made a mistake anywhere. [↑](#)

[3] The tax rate is still 2% percent there. I assume the difference is made up by the upper class. Surprisingly makes sense considering what I read about ancient Greek tax systems. [↑](#)

[4] "It's over Almus! I have the high ground!" (King Belvedere probably) [↑](#)

[5] On a side note, the original name was Thor but I'm 99.9% percent sure that this is alternate Italy and Thor is a north Germanic name (i.e. Scandinavia and the area of Germany near that). I decided to just go with Tory since it derives from Terrentius, a Roman name. It's a one-off name so it's not like it matters too much so I just went ahead and changed that bit. Also that would have been a death flag (the promise to marry part) for Tory lol. [↑](#)

[6] This isn't a mistake. I know who's speaking here in case you were wondering. Though I will say sometimes it isn't 100% clear who's talking in other dialogue. [↑](#)

[7] This was odd for me to translate:

手を抜いてやろうと思う奴も居るし。逆にこいつは手を抜こうとしているのではと疑う者も居る。

If anyone has a better version let me know. [↑](#)

Chapter 112 - The One-Eyed and the Hawk IV

It has been 3 days since we surrounded the royal capital.

3 weeks have already passed since the beginning of this war.

I told Bartolo to hold out for a month. In other words, we have only 1 week left before my time limit runs out.

Whether or not Bartolo's efforts will have been meaningful is dependent on what happens here...

"This isn't good..." (Almus)

I scratch my head.

If Bartolo is defeated, the Rozel Army will be able to run amok inside our country. At that point the only thing we could do is surrender.

I don't know whether I should feel appalled or impressed by the cold-hearted foresight possessed by the vassal alliance of King Belvedere's abandoned towns and Patricians; as soon as they caught wind of the Belvedere Army's crushing defeat at our hands, a majority of them saw the writing on the walls and surrendered to me.

All that's left is for King Belvedere himself to surrender.

That will be difficult though as there is still hope for King Belvedere yet. King Eville is currently invading our country.

There is a very real possibility that King Eville can defeat us and that's why King Belvedere won't give up.

I must hurry and get both King Belvedere and King Eville to surrender and then go reinforce Bartolo...

"Your Majesty, King Rosyth." (Rosyth Soldier)

"What is it?" (Almus)

"A message from Lord Bartolo..." (Rosyth Soldier)

"Give it here!!" (Almus)

I quickly go to where the soldier's letter is on a fast horse and tear it open. Impatiently, I make a mess opening it.

[To your majesty, King Rosyth.

By the time you read this letter, I think I should be in this world no longer.]

"WHAT!!!" (Almus)

[By that I jest.]

Irritation [\[1\]](#)

I unconsciously throw the letter to the ground and step on it.

After that, I hurriedly pick the letter back up, brush off the dirt, and resume reading.

[I will briefly summarize the current situation. At the present, our army is holding out. Fortunately, there is the well in the royal capital for water and an abundance of food. It seems harvest this year was excellent. There is enough food to last five months if you were to save it.]

It seems my biggest fear that we would run out of food in a siege is no longer an issue.

That's a relief.

With that much food, we would be able to feed everyone within the walls of a large city for over a year. And in the case of a siege breaking out, that can be extended to 5 years.

Though in Bartolo's case, he'd need 5 months of preparations for a siege that long...

[However, Rozel have called their reinforcements back home. Information from a spy says that Rozel have called back 40,000 of their troops. I am unsure on the details but... it seems they are being divided into 4 divisions with the first regiment arriving a week from now.]

40,000 is it...

There's no way our country can stand up to that kind of military power. That kind of power is enviable.

Though, it seems they will need time to gather that power.

Four divisions... would be about 10,000 soldiers as a conservative estimate I think?

Which means after one month of gathering manpower, the total number of soldiers could become 50,000?

[As I previously reported, we have enough food to last us 5 months. That is, if we only took food into account. Morale among my men is swiftly declining. There is fear that I don't quite understand growing among them. It seems there is a skilled assassin in the enemy ranks who turned one of my army's centurions into eighths. [\[2\]](#)]

This is certainly one of the causes for this fear. We can hold out for one week; I can guarantee that. However, once the first of the enemy divisions arrives... I do not know how long we could endure.

Two to three weeks is really the time limit on this. Please think over this.

I request for reinforcements as soon as possible. Also I propose to open diplomatic negotiations with Gillbed and Fardam.

From, Bartolo Pompeius Mela

P.S. I will accept the responsibility of my defeat after our victory.]

"... the responsibility of my defeat" huh...

I don't feel the need to particularly question this. Whether we win or lose, at this point will all come down to luck.

It's not like it's Bartolo's fault. Well, after I come in with reinforcements I will revoke the imperium (absolute commanding authority) granted to him. Then I will say he can erase the sin of defeat from this battle in the next one. That should be good enough.

Losing Bartolo over a single defeat would be ridiculous.

Well then, it seems like my time limit has been extended to two weeks...

"Hey, Ron. You got any good ideas?" (Almus)

"Nope." (Ron)

What a splendidly prompt reply. Well, Ron is just the captain of the Praetorian Guard. It can't be helped. [\[3\]](#)

I turn my gaze over to Gram. Ah, he turned away.

I suppose an arrow can't take down a castle wall, huh.

"Roswald. How about you?" (Almus)

"We could always try to get the horses to run up the ramparts." (Roswald)

In other words nothing I suppose.

I'll try asking Soy on and Lulu. Maybe I can get a different perspective from magicians.

"Well, we could try dropping bombs from the sky using hawks... that way we could launch an ambush on the enemy." (Soy on)

There are a lot of falcons on the other side too. Carrying the bombs would weigh our hawks down more and would quickly be hunted by the other hawks.

"Lulu, what are your thoughts?" (Almus)

"Um... how about using the ballistae to launch bomb spears over the wall?" (Lulu)

"Those huh. While I do want to test that out, the castle gate is strong enough that, unless we hit it multiple times, it won't break. Moreover, to get within firing range, we would need to enter the enemy's firing range too..." (Almus)

Basically, whichever side can extend their firing range will also increase their power.

Since the laws of physics exists, it can't be helped.

If we make any careless attempts, our ballistae will get destroyed.

"Sieging a castle sure is tough... it can't be helped." (Almus)

Should I call for Alexios?

"Alexios. Do you have any plans? I don't have much time to spare. I want the castle to fall as fast as possible." (Almus)

I called Alexios to hear his opinion.

Alexios is a foreigner. Moreover, he isn't even originally from our ally, Lezzad. He's a Povenian. [\[4\]](#)

The other vassals must be upset that an Aldernian king is so simply asking the opinion of a Povenian (and not them).

It's hard being popular... just kidding.

That kind of discord is only going to invite distrust towards me which could factor into the collapse of the country.

I'd like to avoid that as much as possible.

However, I'm more worried about the country collapsing because of Rozel

rather than from internal discord at the moment.

After all, you can't make an omelette without cracking some eggs. [\[5\]](#)

"Actually, those were my thoughts exactly. I've asked my wife to look into something for me. Melia!" (Alexios)

"Yes. Here your highness. I interrogated some of the prisoners of war about the structure of the walls and had magicians from Lezzad examine it as well. Some of it includes speculation on my part well but..." (Melia)

I receive the paper from the woman known as Melia. It seems she is Alexios' wife.

They are quite the good-looking couple.

According to a rumor, these two had eloped to the Aldernian peninsula.

Well, it's fine if they're happy in the end I suppose? There seem to be a common pattern those attempting to elope. Romeo and Juliet for example.

Thinking this, I unravel the paper.

This is quite the detailed map.

To be able to finish this in 3 days... Melia seems to be very skilled.

However, the more I look at the map, the more I see there is no weakness I can exploit.

And I start to understand the fragility of my own country's walls.

I hand the map back to Melia and ask her a question.

"So, do you have a plan?" (Almus)

"I'm sure you have come the same conclusion but the castle's structure is very strong. A frontal attack on it would probably take years. It seems King Belvedere has previously prepared a stockpile of food in the event of a siege." (Melia)

I know you want to say something so say it.

Get to the point already!!

"In short, the siege will take us a year. It could take maybe 3 weeks should many things go in our favour I think? If we dig under the castle walls, they should come down easily. However, the enemy has probably already anticipated this possibility as they most likely dug a tunnel under the walls as a counter to this." (Alexios)

... Even Alexios is saying that this is impossible.

This is impossible for me as well.

But if we let this be, it will mean the end of the country...

"Peace is a beautiful thing. It is fortunate that King Belvedere is a coward. If he is threatened, he will yield." (Alexios)

"But if they are able to endure, how can we win? How do we break King Belvedere?" (Almus)

In the first place, there is no way someone who can win a drawn-out war would just capitulate from one short decisive battle.

Time is on King Belvedere's side.

"That's not what I'm saying here. The northern and central patricians and cities have formed an anti-King Belvedere alliance right? Given time, more will rise up and join that alliance. That king will probably panic. What's more is that King Eville can't tell if the Rosyth Kingdom is at its breaking point. If we push him into a corner just a bit, King Belvedere should capitulate. This all really depends on him capitulating." (Alexios)

"And what do you mean by 'push him into a corner' exactly?" (Almus)

"Specifically the plan is to..." (Alexios)

Alexios shows an nasty(evil) looking face as he explains his plan to me.

A catapult roars as it fires pots into the sky.

The high-powered Cretian-made catapult launches those pots over and lands it inside the walls.

"The pots contain human excrement, broken corpses, gunpowder, a kind of container with 50/50 gunpowder and oil inside... how crude." (Almus)

Well, using excrement and corpses is a valid tactic in siege warfare.

"All that's left is the letter I suppose. It would be bad if I forgot that." (Almus)

In a pot with a corpse I also put in a letter.

I put in four different kinds of letters.

First is information on the captured prisoners of war.

Second is information on the identities of the dead.

Third is false information that Bartolo and his Allied Army look to be winning.

Fourth is a recommendation for surrender.

A letter is light enough that a hawk could be used to scatter them from the sky.

Unfortunately they have as many hawk users as we do.

"Still, will they really capitulate with this?" (Almus)

"They won't. But the pressure on them will increase. It is because many Cretians live in the Belvedere Kingdom." (Alexios)

In other words, there are many people who can read the letters.

I'm sure King Belvedere will give out an order that forbids people from picking up the letters...

There is information on family who survived written.

They will be compelled to pick them up.

"Well, for now, how about we talk with Ains and Gehenna's representative." (Almus)

Presently, the one who holds the highest authority is myself. The reason being is that Lezzad and Gehenna's support came in the form of reinforcements.

Moreover, I do have to keep up appearances.

We need the specifics on what happens postwar especially. Then we need to discuss King Belvedere's terms for surrender.

Author's note:

Next will really be the end (of Belvedere).

Translator's note:

Hope you enjoyed this chapter. Fairly easy to translate this time. Not too many difficult sentences so I'm happy.

[1] It originally said [イラツ] for those who were wondering. It's the Japanese onomatopoeia for getting irritated. There is no good english equivalent for this so I just put that Almus gets upset. Rightly so I might add; not funny Bartolo. (Ok maybe kinda funny) [↑](#)

[2] The original term was [百人隊長] which the previous author used "kentarch" as the translation for. While this is the correct translation from Japanese to English, I want to use "centurion" from now on as it is much more "Roman" sounding. For those who are curious the main the difference between the two terms are mostly linguistic and historic. A kentarch was a Byzantine (who were mostly Greek which would be the Cretians in this setting) commanding officer who commanded an army of 100. A centurion, on the other hand, commands an army of 80 heavy infantry under the Roman Empire. The Byzantines were also called the (Eastern) Roman Empire but, in this case just pretend that a centurion is the same as a kentarch and commands an army of 100 instead of 80. I can change it back if you guys really want me to but I thought "kentarch" sounded too Greek (which again, it is). [↑](#)

[3] Yay more Roman terminology! So the Praetorian Guard were the imperial

guards of the Roman Empire who also served as military police if I'm not mistaken. Since the Japanese said [近衛隊長] which translates to "imperial guard captain," I decided to call this imperial guard what its Roman equivalent. Also I could call Ron's position specifically the "praetorian prefect" but I was afraid I would only confuse people since most people do not have dictionary knowledge of Roman army composition and titles. Unlike centurion, praetorian prefect is not a very well known position. If you don't mind this let me know so if/when this title comes back I'll just use "Praetorian Prefect" as his official title.

↑

[4] Upon thinking about it, Pothenia, Poffenia, or Pophenia don't quite look or sound as good as Povenia. Until I find a better translation for ポフェニア, I am going with Povenia. ↑

[5] The omelette in question is victory over Rozel and the eggs is the trust his vassals have in Almus. They're being broken because Almus is relying on a foreigner for war support and not his vassals. Just to clarify in case of confusion.

↑

Chapter 113 - Bloodless Capitulation

I called for Ains and Gehenna's representative and moved ahead with talks of how postwar will be handled specifically.

First order of business was that of territory but these talks went over smoothly.

To put it briefly, the southern third of the Belvedere Kingdom would go to Lezzad and Gehenna. The north and central thirds would go to the Rosyth Kingdom.

And so it was.

This agreement reflects each of the three nation's power dynamic and geography.

First, the my kingdom is much stronger than both Lezzad and Gehenna.

Writing this [treaty?] makes it sound like I made a threat... but that's the case.

[1]

In fact it's the opposite. Lezzad and Gehenna insisted for me to take the majority of the land.

It is obvious to reason that when you expand territory, you must divide some of your power to defend it.

Because Lezzad and Gehenna are small countries, they do not hold the defensive capabilities to cover the territory. That's why we gained a majority of the territory.

Also, the Belvedere Kingdom's unique demographics and political system

influenced this.

First, the biggest reason was that Belvedere Kingdom's ruler, King Belvedere, was an Aldernian.

The Belvedere Kingdom in the beginning was a confederation of the Belvedere gens (family) and several other influential gens. Over time, the Belvedere gens stood out and became the leaders amongst their allies. They then claimed the title of "King"... That is basically the origins of their political system. Well, we [the Rosyth Kingdom] are the same. [\[2\]](#)

In other words, it's a country centered around Aldernians.

However, the Cretians have built many colonies in the rich and warm southern part of the Aldernian peninsula.

The number of Cretians immigrating rapidly increased and so too did the number of people who migrate to the Belvedere Kingdom.

Successive Belvedere kings have encouraged Cretian immigration for their technology and economic power.

And so, the Cretians who had immigrated began to marry with Aldernians, and the number of multiracial people grew. [henceforth dubbed Cretian-Aldernians] [\[3\]](#)

Like this, several autonomous cities made up of mostly Cretian-Aldernians started popping up in the central region of the Belvedere Kingdom.

As time passed, the Belvedere Kingdom's national power grew, and so they began to invade the Cretian colonies to expand further.

While I say this, they weren't really "invaded" but more coerced into a

confederation.

Even when influential city-states like Lezzad began formed alliances, the Belvedere Kingdom's policy of forcing other colonies to confederate did not change much.

That's why much of the Belvedere Kingdom's south is made up of former Cretian city-states.

In a nutshell, the north is run by Aldernian patricians. The middle is made up of Cretian-Aldernian autonomous cities. And the south made up of former Cretian city-states who were coerced into an unequal confederacy with the Belvedere kings.

For Lezzad and Gehenna, it is not difficult to integrate the southern region. All they need to do is to make the same pact as King Belvedere had. [[basically this](#)]

In contrast, the central and north portions are more troublesome.

Although the people of the central region had autonomy, it was an autonomy policy allowed to the same level as the previous kings of the Belvedere Kingdom.

Without the "king's guidance," we don't know what we should do... is what many people thought.

So, should Lezzad or Gehenna provide guidance? That said, thinking this way is no good for them either. Because they hold a lot of half-baked pride, they hate to see fellow "mere humans" be depended on. It can't be anyone but a "King."

The northern region goes without saying. Because the Aldernian patricians are paying, an Aldernian king must also pay. [\[4\]](#)

Well, anyways that's the situation that led to our country annexing the northern and central regions.

In the negotiations, Lezzad and Gehenna did have a dispute over how the southern territory should be divided between them, but now the partitioning has been decided and agreed upon.

All that's left now is the confrontation with the Belvedere Kingdom with the conditions.

"What sort of conditions did you have in mind of King Rosyth?" (Ains)

"All major state-owned mines are to be suppressed by my country. All castles and forts are to be abolished [or demolished?] with the exception of the one in the royal capital. The prohibition of military arms. The prohibition of going to war without permission from the Rosyth Kingdom. For all of the [former?] cities and patricians confederated/allied the Belvedere Kingdom who confederated/allied to Rosyth Kingdom [instead?] to be recognized. The wife and children of King Belvedere to be turned over to the Rosyth Kingdom for 10 years. ... I think that should be good." (Almus)

I carefully explain the conditions I thought up of until now.

Ains and Gehenna's representative give a surprised look.

"Those are some pretty harsh terms. But are you not going to demand them to pay reparations?" (Ains)

"They won't be able to pay a high amount anyways. Because that's the case,

it's better off to not demand reparations. Rather than reparations, it would be smarter to make it so they would be unable to turn against us in the future.”
(Almus)

To be honest, I wanted to add in more things such as banning alliances except with the Rosyth Kingdom but Lezzad and Gehenna are also here...

“But there is a problem with the prohibitions on arms and war. Would they obey that?” (Ains)

“They would have no choice but to obey. The Belvedere Kingdom is surrounded by my country’s allies after all.” (Almus)

The Belvedere Kingdom’s capital is in the northern region. Because the northern region’s patricians and central region’s cities are to fall under the Rosyth Kingdom, that will naturally make the Belvedere Kingdom surrounded by my country.

The Belvedere Kingdom would not be able to fight a war against anyone but my country.

In a way, it’s not that harsh treatment. Rather, this treatment is a matter of course.

This is the same with the prohibition on rearmament.

Because money can’t be taken, if it were just then it wouldn’t be too difficult to swallow.

Also, I don’t think the terms are too bad.

You could say this treaty is rather paradoxical, as it leaves all national defense to the Rosyth Kingdom.

King Belvedere can turn his head to domestic affairs now since he would no longer have to manage national defense.

It's a pretty good deal for the losing country.

Well, that's assuming the Rosyth Kingdom honors the premise of the treaty...

At the very least, I don't want to destroy the Belvedere Kingdom as long as King Belvedere doesn't make any suspicious moves.

In the first place, I put in the clause to take hostages to convey this.

If I were the type of person to attack after prohibiting rearming then it would be unnecessary to take hostages.

If we are to keep surveillance over the hostages for 10 years, then that means we plan to let them survive for 10 years.

Well, if you read too much into it, it seems like some kind of trick made by the fiendish Almus Ars Rosyth.

"Actually... my home country says they want to claim reparations..." (Ains)

"Same here." (Gehenna's representative)

Ains and Gehenna's representative say this with embarrassed faces.

In other words, Lezzad and Gehenna need to be paid reparations...

"About how much?" (Almus)

"For now lets say it's double to triple the cost of the war for us..." (Ains)

It seems it's the same with Gehenna.

Over a thousand gold coins huh... without a doubt there is no way the Belvedere Kingdom can pay that much.

"Can't you give me something more concrete?" (Almus)

"No, we don't mind if the payment is made in installments. However we cannot wait more than 5 years for it to be paid." (Ains)

Hmmm, I don't want to really just deny this claim...

What to do...

"Then how about this. My country will shoulder the reparation debt. After 3 years, the Belvedere Kingdom will start to pay my country back the debt, then after 10 years the reparations will be paid off. What do you think?" (Almus)

"No, we are completely fine with this but... is your majesty, King Rosyth, really fine with agreement?" (Ains)

Ains is asking if Rosyth is really financially stable enough not to collapse from this.

This is more my country's domestic affairs but... if it's going to lead to bankruptcy the proposal won't be put through.

I'll figure something out. No, rather I'll do something.

Thinking about it 3 years later...

I had not thought about how dangerous it was to not crush King Belvedere. If you can crush someone, then crush them. In that time, it is time for your country to fall into ruin.

"Well, it's time to end this..." (Almus)

I wrote out the contents of the treaty on the paper.

1. King Belvedere will capitulate and hand over all arms.
2. From here on, King Belvedere is prohibited from any arms in the future.
3. With the exception of the royal capital's castle, all castles and forts are to be demolished.
4. Until the third clause is achieved, Lezzad and Gehenna's armies are to be stationed in the Belvedere Kingdom. The maintenance cost will be covered by the Belvedere Kingdom.
5. King Belvedere is forbidden from declaring war without the Rosyth's Kingdom's permission.
6. King Belvedere will accept the fact that the patricians and cities in the northern and central regions who have become King Rosyth's vassals are vassals.
7. King Belvedere will accept that the cities in the southern region have confederated with Lezzad and Gehenna.
8. The wife and children of the Belvedere king are to live in the Rosyth Kingdom for 10 years.
9. When someone from House Belvedere is getting married, the marriage must be approved by King Rosyth, Lezzad, and Gehenna.
10. King Belvedere must pay 2,000 gold [each?] to both Lezzad and Gehenna within 5 years.
11. If payment is impossible, the Rosyth Kingdom will shoulder the debt. The Belvedere Kingdom must repay that debt back to the Rosyth Kingdom after 3 years and must finish repaying within 10 years. (Depending on the

financial situation of the Belvedere Kingdom, negotiations may be permitted.)

12. [WTF there is no 12th clause lol. Also that parenthesis in 11 is not mine fyi]
13. The Belvedere Kingdom shall maintain direct control over territory it had before the war.
14. Mines within the Belvedere Kingdom (salt, gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, tin, magic stones) are to be owned by King Rosyth.
15. When these are all done, the Rosyth Kingdom, Lezzad, and Gehenna will recognize the Belvedere Kingdom's sovereignty.

"Your majesty, King Belvedere. It is a pleasure to meet you. I am Lezzad's representative, Ains Worth." (Ains) [\[5\]](#)

Ains gave King Belvedere a routine greeting.

And so the long preaching of the splendors of peace began.

To summarize Ains' long talk, we want peace. If the Belvedere Kingdom, wishes it, then the war could be over. Basically that's what was said.

Then, while laughing and smiling, King Belvedere was presented the conditions.

"This is..." (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere frowned.

These conditions would make it so they would become something like a [client state](#) of the Rosyth Kingdom.

The only good thing about this is that Lezzad and Gehenna are involved. Freedom of diplomacy is permitted.

In the first place, it was Lezzad and Gehenna who cornered him this far.

But, these are not bad conditions for situation that the royal capital is being sieged.

For a crushed country, completely getting rid of the Belvedere family would be normal, so these conditions that left a bit of hope are not bad.

Territories are being greatly partitioned, but areas under direct control will be maintained.

In the first place, most of those territories are owned by the patricians and autonomous cities so there would be no major changes.

There is the minus that taxes from the patricians and autonomous cities will be lost but that cancels out with the fact that military spending will be cut.

These are favourable conditions for a country right before capitulating.

The problem is...

(There is the Eville Kingdom...)

If we let the siege keep going, it may be possible for either the Eville Kingdom or the Rozel Kingdom to destroy the Rosyth Kingdom.

If that happens, then Belvedere can gain some territory from the Rosyth Kingdom.

A choice between high risk, high reward and low risk, low reward...

King Belvedere closes his eyes for a while and then gives his response.

"We accept." (King Belvedere)

"I thought that would be the case if it were with King Belvedere." (Ains)

Ains laughed and smiled.

King Belvedere saw this and gave a self-deprecating smile.

(This was a treaty made after considering my cowardly personality after all.)

King Belvedere gave out a sigh.

In the first place, King Belvedere never wanted to be king. However, because his siblings were so engrossed in plotting against each other, they ended up killing each other and so the position naturally went to him.

King Belvedere was aware he had no talent. That's why he never tried to compete.

But the messenger from Rozel had convinced him.

"You can definitely win if it's now." (Rozel messenger)

The Rozel messenger said this. King Belvedere also thought that if King Rosyth were besieged by Rozel, Eville, Belvedere, and Equus then he would be defeated.

In addition, he saw ambition in King Rosyth's eyes. Get your enemies before they you. That is the rule of the world.

Originally, because he was accused of being a coward, he had gotten a complex about it.

Therefore, he thought this was going to be his once in a lifetime chance...

"Sigh... it seems I've stepped on the griffon's tail." (King Belvedere)

King Belvedere sighed.

(But it's good that my generation did not become the last generation. Not that that was decided but... sigh, I suppose I'll be known be carved into the annals of history as a foolish ruler. A stepping stone for that young king...)

Later, King Belvedere would dramatically increase his income by spending more on domestic affairs over the military and successfully paid off all debts to the Rosyth Kingdom without fail.

Although it would written in the history books that he had no military talent, because he had not allowed for unnecessary blood to be spilt and with his『resolution』, he would go down in history as a wise ruler.

What kind of face would King Belvedere make if he knew this...

Author's note:

None~

Translator's note:

Hope you enjoyed this chapter. I've been pretty busy since last week (what with moving into my new apartment and helping my parents move) but am completely free now for this week so I might be able to come out with the next chapter really soon. Anyways I'm tired. In the words of a certain isekai protagonist, "Sleep is justice."

[1] Writing out the treaty I guess? I don't think this is meta to the point where Almus is the one writing the web novel down in-universe. That'd be very odd on why he would know certain character POVs lol. Just caught me off guard there for a second and wanted to comment on that. [↑](#)

[2] The author is making a distinction between 豪族 and 氏族. Both can be translated into clans I suppose but the former refers to a powerful and wealthy family (basically the upper class) and the latter refers to any group of a family. The distinction I made to translate this is 豪族 are still "patricians" since they were the Roman ruling/upper class and for 氏族 to be gens, which is the Roman term for a family (by blood generally). Basically in both the Japanese here and English I'm giving, all patrician families are gens but not all gens are patricians, just the important ones are. [↑](#)

[3] I didn't have a really good way to say this. Basically what is being said that the Aldernian and Cretian cultures/blood was being more mixed together? Like the people became something not completely Aldernian or Cretian I think. The Japanese translated literally says "Thus, the Cretians who moved married the Aldernians, and the multiracial advanced." Also Cretian-Aldernians means an Aldernian of Aldernian and Cretian heritage. I suppose an Aldernian-Cretian would be a Cretian of Aldernian and Cretian heritage [↑](#)

[4] I guess they must mean they spend resources to maintain the direct control? This part in general was a bit awkward for me to translate so honestly I just directly translated what the literal Japanese said here so if anyone else has a better idea let me know: 北部地域は言うまでも無いだろう。アデルニア人の豪族が納めているのだから、同じアデルニア人の王が納めなくてはいけない。 [↑](#)

[5] Lol really? Ains Worth? Wonder where the author got that name. Also Ains had a last name lol? [↑](#)